CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An ink/toner cartridge compensation system for uneven ink/toner usage, comprising:

an ink/toner cartridge including a plurality of ink/toner colors;

a printer driver operatively connected to said cartridge;

a memory device operatively connected to said printer driver for recording ink/toner usage of said cartridge; and

a display device operatively connected to said printer driver to allow a user to determine which color was depleted first and to compensate for an uneven usage of that color.

2. The system, as in Claim 1, wherein said display device is further comprised of:

a first interaction line;

a plurality of color selections;

a second interaction line;

a use history button;

a slider/scale;

an OK button;

a print sample button;

a cancel button; and

a help button.

3. The system, as in Claim 1, wherein said system is further comprised of:

a print head operatively connected to said printer driver; and

a print mechanism operatively connected to said printer driver.

4. A method for ink/toner cartridge compensation, comprising the steps of:

inserting a new ink/toner container/supply into a printing system;

monitoring a usage of ink/toner contained in said container;

determining if a particular color of ink/toner is depleted;

having a user determine if said user wants to compensate for said ink/toner color that is depleted; and

if said user decides to compensate for said ink/toner color that is depleted, compensating for that color.

5. The method, as in Claim 4, wherein said monitoring step is further comprised of the step of:

monitoring said ink/toner usage through the use of a printer driver and a printer driver memory.

6. The method, as in Claim 4, wherein said determining step is further comprised of the step of:

monitoring said ink/toner usage through the use of a printer driver and a printer driver memory.

7. The method, as in Claim 4, wherein said compensating step is further comprised of the steps of:

said user desires to compensate for the depleted color;

said user adjusts a slider;

said user clicks an OK button;

said user clicks on a print sample button to print out a sample of said adjusted color; and

said user determines if said compensated/adjusted color is acceptable.

8. The method, as in Claim 4, wherein said compensating step is further comprised of the steps of:

clicking a cancel button, if said user desires to cancel said compensating step.

9. The method, as in Claim 4, wherein said compensating step is further comprised of the steps of:

clicking a help button, if said user needs assistance in completing said compensating step.

10. A method for ink/toner cartridge compensation, comprising the steps of:

inserting a new ink/toner container/supply into a printing system;

monitoring a usage of the ink/toner contained in said container;

determining if a particular color of ink/toner is running low ;

having said user determine if said user wants to compensate for said ink/toner color that is running low ; and

if said user decides to compensate for said ink/toner color that is running low , compensating for that color.

11. The method, as in Claim 10, wherein said monitoring step is further comprised of the step of:

monitoring said ink/toner usage through the use of a printer driver and a printer driver memory.

12. The method, as in Claim 10, wherein said determining step is further comprised of the step of:

monitoring said ink/toner usage through the use of a printer driver and a printer driver memory.

13. The method, as in Claim 10, wherein said compensating step is further comprised of the steps of:

said user desires to compensate for the color that is running low;

said user adjusts a slider;

said user clicks an OK button;

said user clicks on a print sample button to print out a sample of said adjusted color; and

said user determines if said compensated/adjusted color is acceptable.

14. The method, as in Claim 10, wherein said compensating step is further comprised of the steps of:

clicking a cancel button, if said user desires to cancel said compensating step.

15. The method, as in Claim 10, wherein said compensating step is further comprised of the steps of:

clicking a help button, if said user needs assistance in completing said compensating step.

16. A program storage medium readable by a computer, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the computer to perform method steps for:

inserting a new ink/toner container/supply into a printing system;

monitoring a usage of ink/toner contained in said container;

determining if a particular color of ink/toner is running low or is depleted;

having a user determine if said user wants to compensate for the ink/toner color that is running low or is depleted; and

if the user decides to compensate for the ink/toner color that is running low or is depleted, compensating for that color.

17. The storage medium, as in Claim 16, wherein said monitoring step is further comprised of the step of:

monitoring said ink/toner usage through the use of a printer driver and a printer driver memory.

18. The storage medium, as in Claim 16, wherein said determining step is further comprised of the step of:

monitoring said ink/toner usage through the use of a printer driver and a printer driver memory.

19. The storage medium, as in Claim 16, wherein said compensating step is further comprised of the steps of:

said user desires to compensate for the depleted color;

said user adjusts a slider;

said user clicks an OK button;

said user clicks on a print sample button to print out a sample of said adjusted color; and

said user determines if said compensated/adjusted color is acceptable.

20. The storage medium, as in Claim 16, wherein said compensating step is further comprised of the steps of:

clicking a cancel button, if said user desires to cancel said compensating step.

21. The storage medium, as in Claim 16, wherein said compensating step is further comprised of the steps of:

clicking a help button, if said user needs assistance in completing said compensating step.

22. A system for ink/toner cartridge compensation, comprising:

a means for providing an ink/toner cartridge having a plurality of ink/toner colors;

a means for providing a printer driver operatively connected to said cartridge means;

a memory means operatively connected to the printer driver for recording ink/toner usage of the cartridge; and

a means for displaying information to a user to allow said a user to determine which color was depleted first or is running low and to compensate for the uneven usage of that color.